

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-21 were presented initially for examination. In response to a prior restriction/election requirement, claims 5 and 7-21 were withdrawn from consideration. In examining elected claims 1-5 and 6, the Examiner has indicated that withdrawn claims 5 and 12 are also in condition for allowance upon the cancellation of claims 7-11 and 13-21. Accordingly, and as set forth above in the Listing of Claims, no claims have been added or amended, and claims 7-11 and 13-21 are canceled. As a result, claims 1-6 and 12 are now pending.

Summary of the Office Action

The Examiner has indicated that the 37 CFR § 1.131 affidavit of September 4, 2007 is proper and effective to establish an actual reduction to practice date prior to the effective date of U.S. Patent No. 6,733,172 to Lee et al. As a result, the Examiner has indicated that the application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 7-11 and 13-21.

The Application Is in Condition for Allowance

As set forth above in the Listing of Claims, the applicant has canceled claims 7-11 and 13-21. As a result, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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